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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 939
By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dresden native
Ronald "Popeye" Jones on being chosen
Murray State University's Player of the Century.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to recognize certain athletes who work to make a significant contribution to the success of their team, and who serve as excellent role models for the youth of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is fortunate to be the home of some of the most talented and brightest citizens of this nation; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Ronald "Popeye" Jones; a Dresden native and the former 1988 TSSAA Mr. Basketball standout, Popeye was recently selected as the Murray State University Player of the Century; and

WHEREAS, currently a member of the National Basketball Association Denver Nuggets, Popeye's exceptional statistics, as a Murray State Racer, make him very deserving of this unique honor; and

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WHEREAS, the awesome 6-foot-8, 250-pounder, is Murray's all-time leading rebounders with 1,374; and

WHEREAS, his deft shooting ability placed him second in Racer scoring history, with 2,057 points, and ranked third in school history in both steals, with 159, and in blocked shots, with 87; and

WHEREAS, Popeye led the nation in rebounding as a senior, averaging an excellent 14.4 rebounds per game during the 1991-92 season; and

WHEREAS, during his senior season for the Racers, Popeye averaged 21.1 points per game and was a three-time All-Ohio Valley Conference selection; and

WHEREAS, during his stellar NBA career that has included stops in Denver, Toronto, and Boston, Popeye has averaged 8.4 points and 8.9 rebounds per game. He scored a career-high 25 points against Boston on December 15, 1994 as a Dallas Maverick; and

WHEREAS, amid all of the athletic awards, fame, and fortune, the ever-so-humble Popeye Jones is a strong believer in those close to him, not allowing money to become an obstacle in his love for his family, friends, or the game of basketball; and

WHEREAS, Popeye is grateful for the love and support he receives from his devoted wife, Amy, and is the loving father of three children, Justin, Seth, and Caleb; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize Popeye Jones on this most recent accolade, and honor most befitting this gifted athlete; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we congratulate Ronald "Popeye" Jones on his selection as the Murray State University Player of the Century, extending to him our best wishes for every future success in his distinguished career.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

